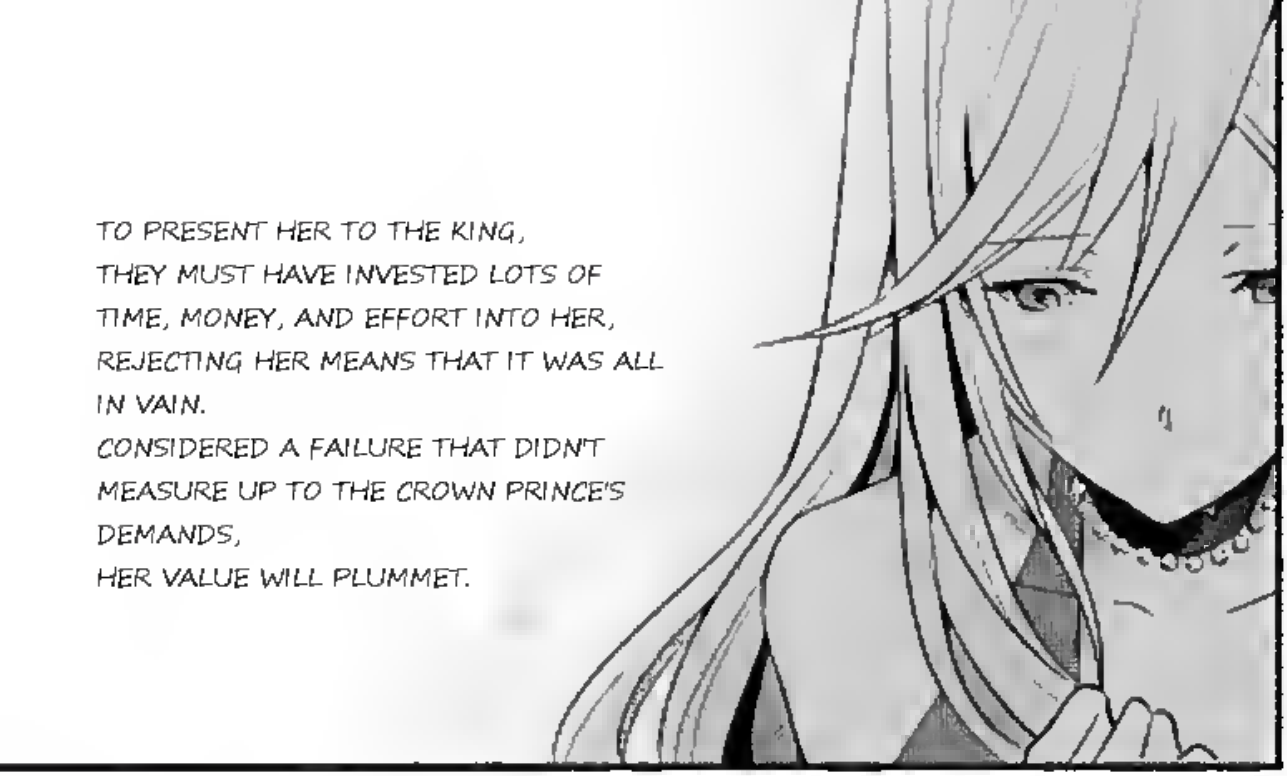
白の皇国物語

第八回

原作：白沢戌亥
漫画：不二まーゆ

SO, TO THAT BED THEN...
イラッ
I-I SEE...
UH, NO... I DON'T...
T-THAT'S HOW YOU INTERPRETED IT?
待て WAIT, IF I SEND HER BACK NOW, WHAT'LL BE OF HER IN THE FUTURE?
…
WELL, SINCE I HAVE SEEN HER, I COULD SEND HER BACK TO THE "FLOWER SHOP" AND THEY'D BE HAPPY…


TO PRESENT HER TO THE KING,
THEY MUST HAVE INVESTED LOTS OF TIME, MONEY, AND EFFORT INTO HER,
REJECTING HER MEANS THAT IT WAS ALL IN VAIN.
CONSIDERED A FAILURE THAT DIDN'T MEASURE UP TO THE CROWN PRINCE'S DEMANDS,
HER VALUE WILL PLUMMET.

IN THAT CASE,
NO NOBLE OR MERCHANT
WILL WANT HER
AND SHE'LL SIMPLY BE A MERE PROSTITUTE.

HUH?
IS THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU LIKE?

I LIKE... MARIE FLOWERS.
CAN THE ME STANDING HERE SIMPLY IGNORE HER CURRENT SITUATION?
UMM...
A KING IS A SUPREME FOOL.
I WILL TAKE CHARGE

OF THE TIME WE ARE GOING TO SPEND.
FOR THAT TIME, YOU CAN HAVE AS MANY MARIE FLOWERS AS YOU DESIRE.
IN EXCHANGE, I WANT YOU TO BLOSSOM
IN MY GARDEN, FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.

IF HE BRINGS THE PRINCESS WITH HIM AGAIN TONIGHT, HE'LL BE IN FOR IT!

!
EXCUSE ME.

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NO, THAT'S...
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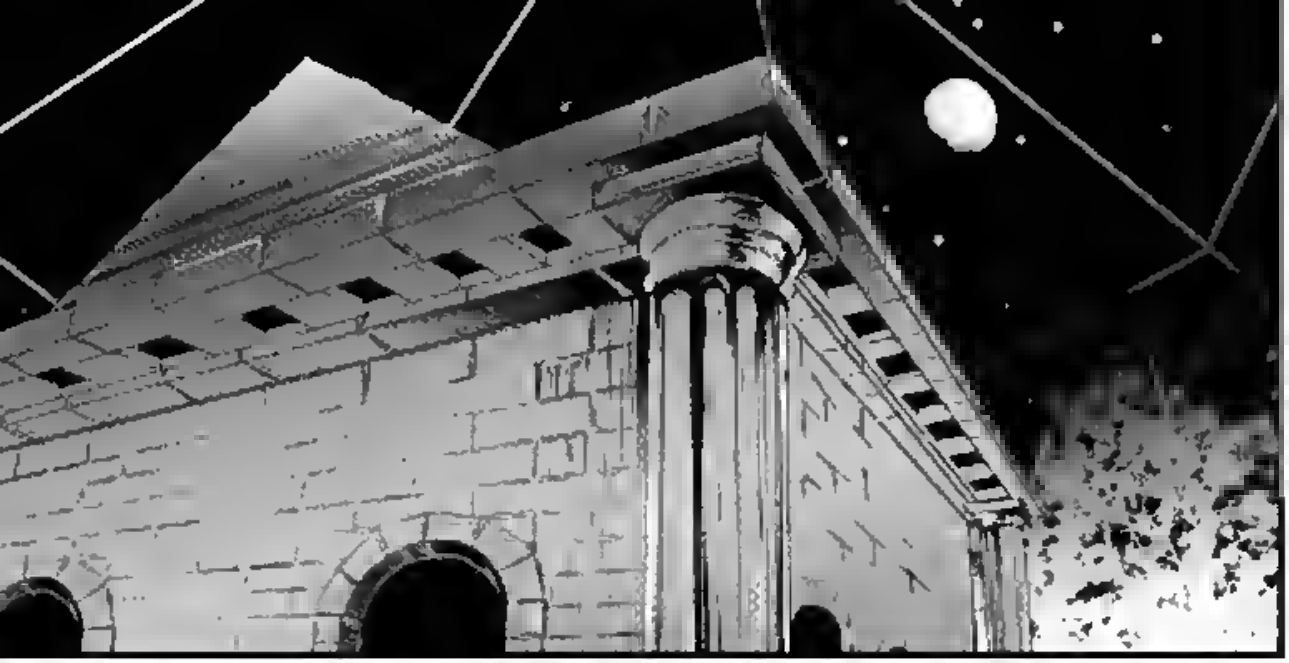
LECT. AND THE PRINCESS?!



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BASED ON THAT LOOK, I SUPPOSE YOU COULDN'T DO ANYTHING?

SHE WAS A BUD OFFERED TO THE CROWN PRINCE
NO ONE WOULD BLAME YOU FOR LAYING YOUR HANDS ON HER.
トポポ
WAS SHE SO BEAUTI-FUL YOU GOT COLD FEET?
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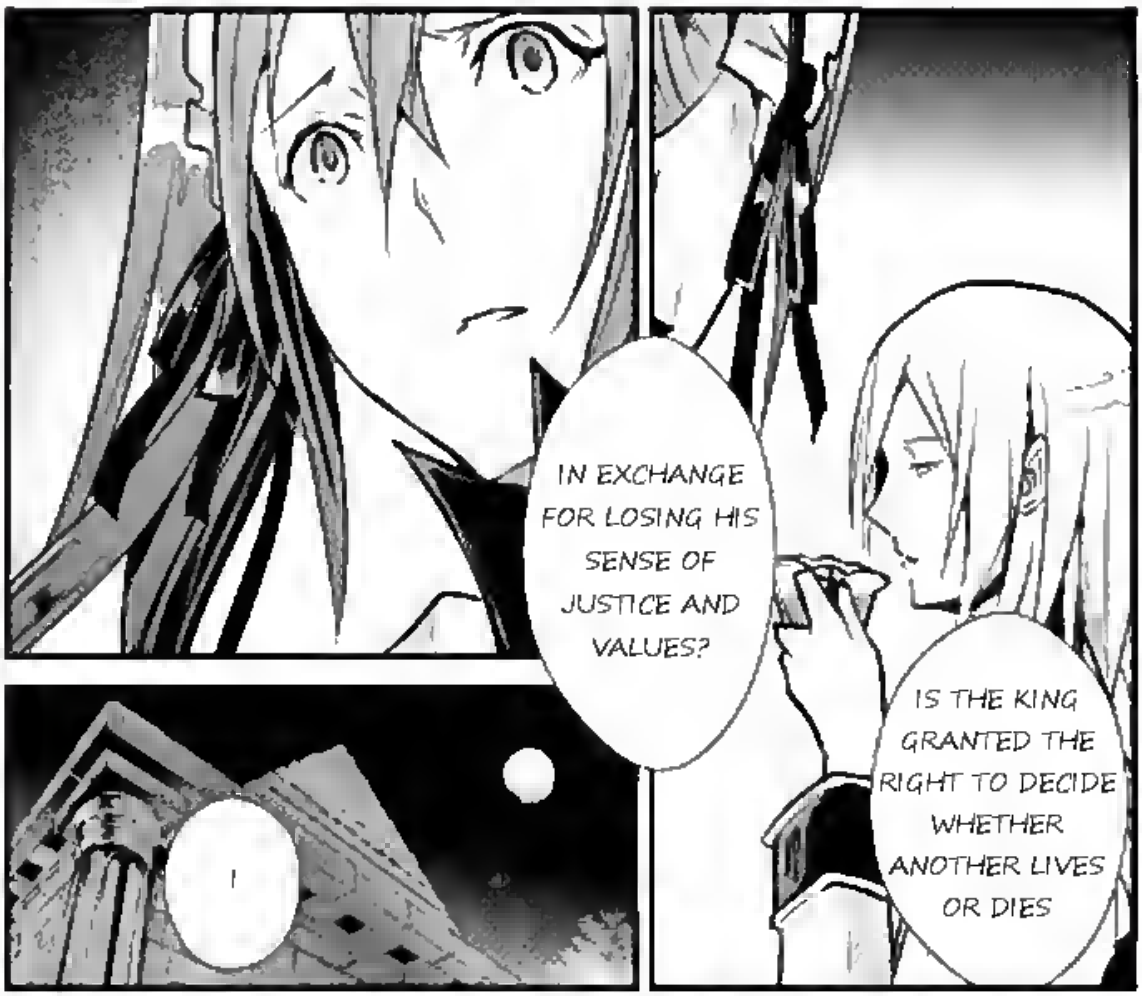
!!
I WONDER WHY...

I WAS JUST
SO WHAT EXACTLY IS TROUBLING YOU?
THINKING ABOUT MY POSITION,
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE KING...


IN EXCHANGE FOR LOSING HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE AND VALUES?
IS THE KING GRANTED THE RIGHT TO DECIDE WHETHER ANOTHER LIVES OR DIES
I

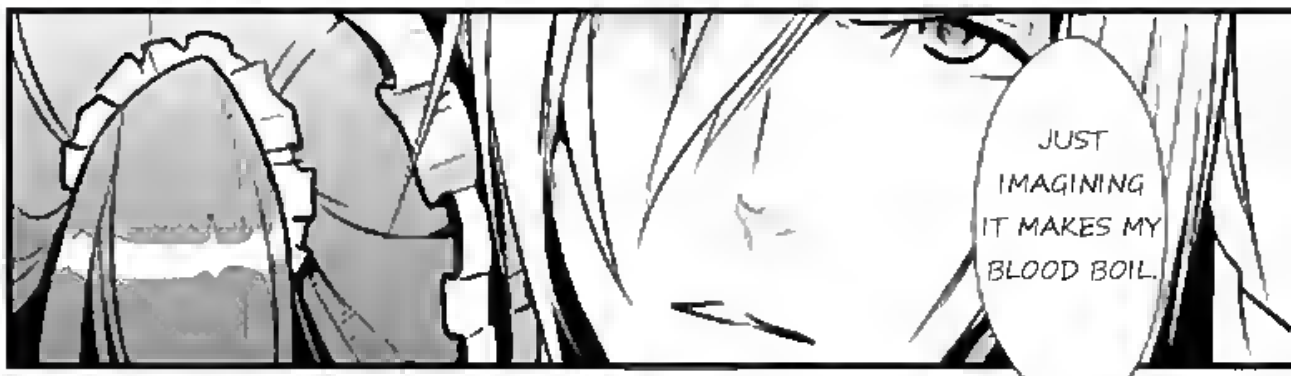
BELIEVE PEOPLE CANNOT ESCAPE THEIR POSITION.
I ONCE SWORE TO HER MOTHER, THAT I WOULD PROTECT THE PRINCESS EVEN AT THE COST OF MY LIFE...
THUS I WAS WILLING TO STRIKE DOWN ANY ENEMY, EVEN IT WERE THE KING.

IF THAT HAPPENS THE PRINCESS WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE HERE
IF YOU DIE, SO DOES THE KINGDOM,
WIN, LECTIVAL,
I DON'T EVEN MIND IF YOU TELL ME TO COMFORT THE SOLDIERS.
I WILL CUT DOWN A THOUSAND ENEMIES,
YOU CAN USE ME HOWEVER YOU WANT. FOR THE SAKE OF VICTORY,
AND I HATE YOU FOR THAT...
BUT RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN PROTECT HER,
DO YOU UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL? MY ONLY REASON FOR LIVING IS TO PROTECT THE PRINCESS.

YET, I'M HAPPY FOR MY PUPIL'S FUTURE.
IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE DIFFERENCE IN STATUS, I MIGHT'VE FALLEN IN LOVE.
I SHOULD HAVE REFUSED TO TEACH YOU BACK THEN...
SWEAR
THAT YOU'LL PROTECT THE COUNTRY AND THE PRINCESS...

I WILL, BUT,
VILIA, YOU HAVE TO PROTECT HER WITH ME.
I CAN'T PROTECT ANYONE ON MY OWN...
AND IF I EVER CHOOSE THE WRONG PATH, HIT ME AND BRING ME BACK TO THE RIGHT ONE.

AND NEVER SPEAK OF SELLING YOURSELF TO SOMEONE.
WHY?

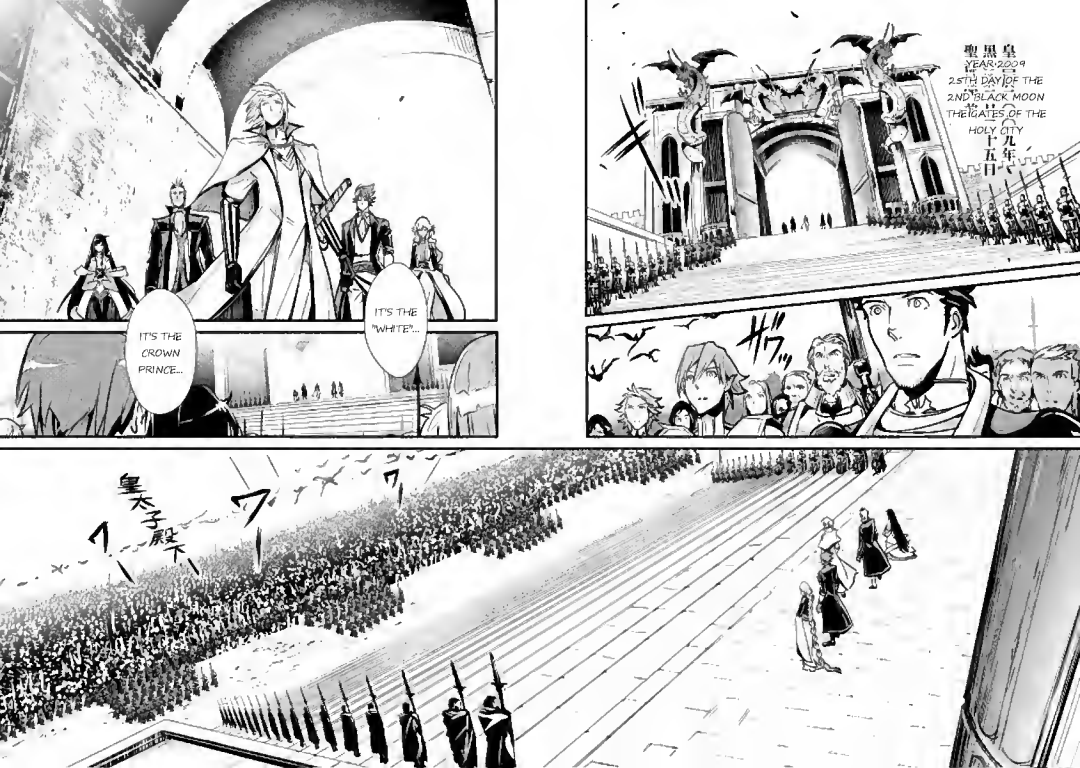

JUST IMAGINING IT MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL.

AAAAAH!

AH-

WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU IMAGINING?

AFTER THAT, LECTIVAL CONTINUED TO BE ABUSED BY WOMEN.
EVEN IN HIS FREE TIME, HE COULDN'T REST, WITH LILICIA AND MERIELA COMPETING FOR HIM.
AFTER A FEW DAYS OF THIS AND VILIA'S COLD GAZE, IT WAS FINALLY TIME.
AND WHEN IT WAS TIME TO EAT MILEIDIA OR MARIA WOULD BRING ALCOHOL LEAVING HIM TO CLEAN UP THE MESS


IT'S THE CROWN PRINCE...
IT'S THE "WHITE"...
聖黒皇暦
YEAR 2029
25TH DAY OF THE
2ND BLACK MOON
THE GATES OF THE
HOLY CITY
二九年
十五日
皇太子殿下
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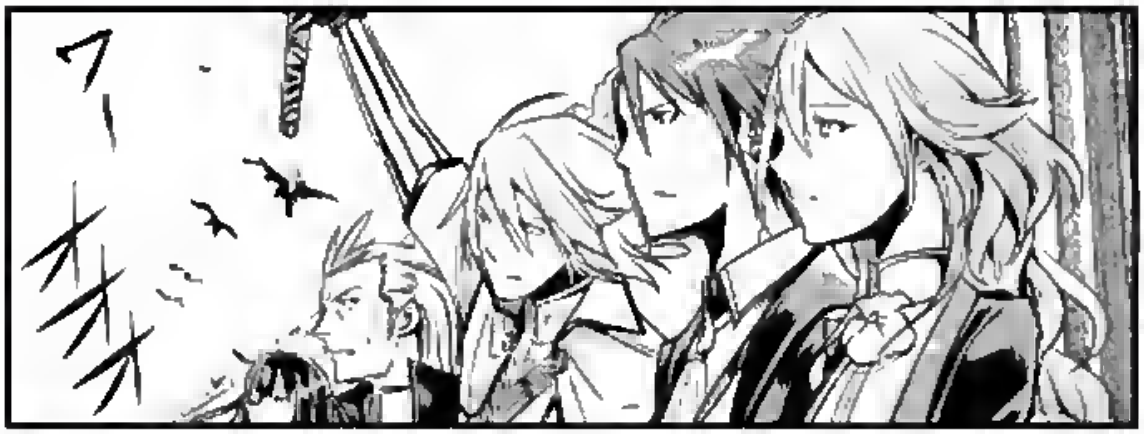
SOLDIERS OF MY BELOVED COUNTRY,
YOU'VE DONE WELL TO ENDURE THIS LONG WAIT.
TODAY BEGINS YOUR DUTY AS THE SHIELD OF THE KINGDOM,
AND YOUR DUTY TO PROTECT YOUR HOMELAND!

WE SHALL HEREBY SET OUT TO RETAKE THE CAPITAL!
SHOW THE ALLIED FORCES YOUR VALOR AND YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR COUNTRY!



THE BATTLE TO RETAKE THE CAPITAL WOULD BE RECORDED IN THE KINGDOM'S ANNALS AS HAVING BEGUN IN THE HOLY CITY.

AND FROM THIS DAY, LECTIVAL BECAME FORMALLY KNOWN AS LECTIVAL ROUITS=ROLD ERWIH.

THE SAME-DAY HEADQUARTERS.
RETURN TO THE WHITE DRAGON PALACE.

ARE THEY STILL AT IT?
NO! I ALSO WISH TO GO TO THE CAPITAL!
YOU MAY NOT!
I SAID NO!
BUT–
OH COME ON, RIGHT BEFORE WE LEAVE?
IN THAT CASE...
WHERE'S MARIA?
ALREADY LEFT

I SHALL FORM A "RIDER CONTRACT" WITH HIS HIGHNESS RIGHT HERE!
WOAH, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WHA-

CAN
UNT OF
S
?
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ﾅｵｰﾉ"
NO, WAIT!
EVEN IF YOU ARE MY FATHER, YOU CANNOT INTERFERE WITH THIS SACRED CONTRACT.
RIDER CONTRACT
A CONTRACT WHERE ONE FROM A DRAGON CLAN CAN SWEAR TO BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE DRAGON MOUNT OF ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL.
THE CONTRACT IS FOR LIFE, AND IS REGARDED AS SACRED BY DRAGONS, WITH ANY INFRINGEMENT BEING UNFORGIVABLE
IF THE DRAGON IS A FEMALE, THE ONLY ONE ALLOWED TO RIDE HER IS A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX, THE ONE TO BE HER HUSBAND
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT FROM
T WHERE ONE F
BECOME THE EX
NDIVIDUAL.
ACT IS FOR LIFE
DRAGONS, WIT
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GON IS A FEMAL
R IS A MEMBER
HER HUSBAND.
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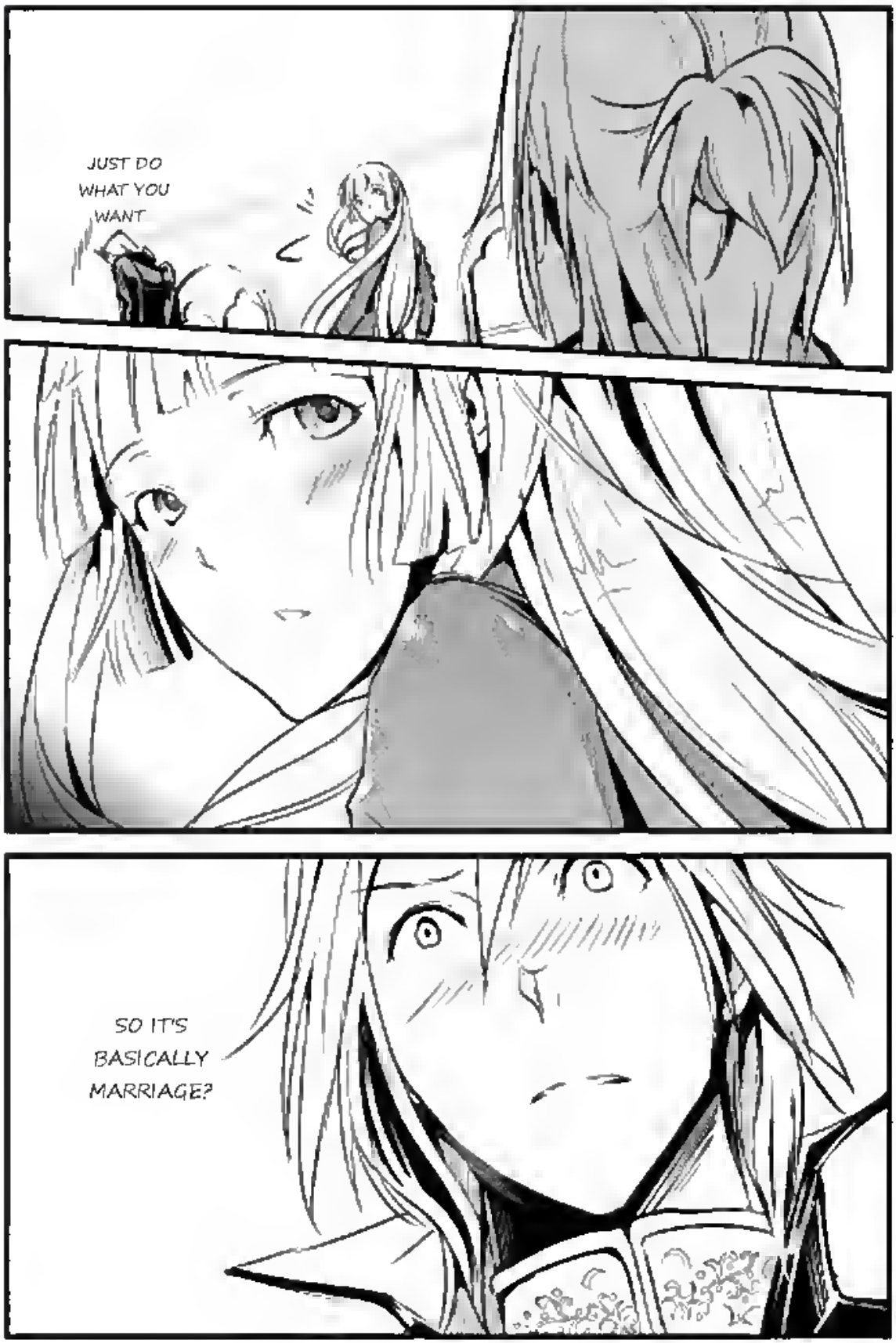
JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT
SO IT'S BASICALLY MARRIAGE?